

Rule Up For Discussion

Proposed Amendments to WAC 230-40-010

Social card games—Rules of play—Types of card games authorized.

ITEM 11(a) on the October 14, 2005, Commission Meeting Agenda. Statutory Authority 9.46.070 & 9.46.0282

Who proposed the rule change?

Recreational Gaming Association.

Why is this rule change proposed?

This rule authorizes certain types of card games and rules of play. With very limited exceptions, players are required to receive cards and base their decision to fold, discard, draw additional cards, or raise the wager on the cards in their hand.

Dolores Chiechi, on behalf of the Recreational Gaming Association, submitted a Petition for Rule Change to change card game rules of play so players are no longer required to receive their own hand of cards. Instead, players would be responsible for their own decisions regarding the game, rather than their own hand. It also removes the prohibition of players from betting on the house's or other player's hand. A player would still be prohibited from betting on another player's position.

This change would allow additional types of card games, such as Mini-Baccarat, Craps style games (played with cards) and other games in house-banked card rooms, with one or more decks of standard playing cards.

Currently, staff reviews each new card game before it is put into play, to ensure it meets the requirements of this rule. If the proposed amendment is adopted, staff would continue to approve each game before it is put into play.

Staff will provide a demonstration of two potential new games that would be allowed if this change is adopted.

Policy Considerations:

May be perceived as an expansion of gambling, as it adds new card games where players are not required to have their own hand of cards.

Regulatory Considerations:

Increasing complexity of games and additional wagering options may make it more difficult to detect cheating. It may increase staff time investigating cheating allegations, processing administrative actions, and reviewing and approving new games.

Attachments:

Petition for Rule Change

Letter notifying Ms. Chiechi that the Petition will be discussed at the October 14, 2005, Commission meeting.

Statements against the proposed rule change.

None.

Which licensees will be directly impacted?

Card rooms.

What are the potential impacts to the agency?

There will be an increase in staff time spent reviewing, approving, and monitoring games.

Staff recommendation.

Whether or not to allow this is a policy decision for the Commission.

Proposed effective date.

January 1, 2006.